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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/082,489	02/22/2002	Alan Rubinstein	3COM-3766.BCG.US.P	3729

7590 06/28/2004
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San Jose, CA 95113

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, LEE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2682

5

DATE MAILED: 06/28/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/082,489

Applicant(s)

RUBINSTEIN ET AL.

Examiner

LEE NGUYEN

Art Unit

2682

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 1-6, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1 recites the limitation "said body" in line 4. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Dependent claims 2-6 are rejected for the same reason.

Regarding claim 6, the claim does not end with a period and also lacks of information that provides further limitation of independent claim 1.

Regarding claim 16, the phrase "for example" renders the claim indefinite because it is unclear whether the limitation(s) following the phrase are part of the claimed invention. See MPEP § 2173.05(d).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Metz et al. (US 5,754,539).

Regarding claim 1, Metz teaches a multi-configuration network connection point device (figs. 1, 3), comprising: a first connection interface including a primary connection port 17 for communicatively coupling to an upstream network device 1, said interface coupled to a body 2; a second connection interface including a secondary connection port 71 for communicatively coupling to a downstream network device via a wireless technology 7, wherein said second connection interface is adapted to be secured in a fixed location while conveniently providing said communicatively coupling to a downstream network device via a wireless technology; and a communication bus 9 for communicatively coupling said first connection interface 17 to said second connection interface 71.

Regarding claim 2, Metz also teaches that said first connection interface comprises a single primary interface connection port (fig. 13, numeral 17).

Regarding claim 3, Metz further teaches that secondary connection interface comprises a plurality of interface connection ports (see 41, 61, 51, 71, fig. 3).

Regarding claim 4, Metz further teaches that said first connection interface 17 couples to a singular communication path to an upstream device 1 (fig. 1).

Regarding claim 5, Metz further teaches that said secondary connection interface is configured for convenient placement in fixed locations in a manner that facilitates maintenance of system integrity and security (numeral 8, col. 4, 9-22).

Regarding claim 7, Metz teaches a multi-configuration network connection point device (figs. 1, 3), comprising: a first connection interface including a primary connection port 17 for communicatively coupling to an upstream network device 1; a second connection interface including a secondary connection port 71 for communicatively coupling to a downstream network device via a wireless technology 7, wherein said

second connection interface is adapted to be secured in a fixed location 8 while conveniently providing said communicatively coupling to a downstream network device via a wireless technology 7; a means 12 for intelligently concentrating data from a plurality of interface connection ports 41, 51 61, 71 included in said second connection interface for communication on said primary connection port of said first connection interface; and a communication bus 9 for communicatively coupling said first connection interface 17 to said second connection interface 41, 51 61, 71.

Regarding claim 8, the claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reason as set forth in claim 2.

Regarding claim 9, the claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reason as set forth in claim 3.

Regarding claim 10, the claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reason as set forth in claim 4.

Regarding claim 11, the claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reason as set forth in claim 5.

Regarding claims 12-13, Metz further teaches a means or fault detection 16 for processing and interpreting data coupled to a first interface 17 (col. 3, 40-47).

Regarding claim 14, Metz further teaches a processing unit 16 or processing information; and a memory for storing said information (col. 4, 17-19).

Regarding claim 15, the claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reason as set forth in claim 3.

Regarding claim 16, the claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reason as set forth in claim 4.

Regarding claim 17, Metz further teaches that the single connection point is configured for fixed placement in a concealed environment 8 (fig. 3).

Regarding claim 18, the claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reason as set forth in claim 5.

Regarding claim 19, Metz also teaches comprising intelligently concentrating data (from 16, fig. 3) from a plurality of interface connection ports 41, 51 61, 71 included of said second connection interface for

communication on said primary connection port of a first connection interface 17.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LEE NGUYEN whose telephone number is (703)-308-5249. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, VIVIAN CHIN can be reached on (703) 308-6739. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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LEE NGUYEN
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2682